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Translated by  
Defense Language Branch

Certificate and Affidavit re Handbook for  
Soldiers at the Front.

Affidavit (*translation*)

Certificate in relation to the drawing up of the Document.

I, Chief of the Archives Section of the First  
Demobilization Bureau or the Demobilization Board duly  
certify that the herein enclosed pamphlet entitled  
"Handbook for Soldiers at the Front", printed in  
Japanese and consisting of 80 pages is the compilation  
and issue of the Military Department of the Imperial  
Headquarters.

Tokyo, March 20th, 1947.

Deponent, MIYAMA, Yoze

(Signed and Sealed)

Chief of the Archives Section of the  
First Demobilization Bureau.

I hereby certify that the aforementioned person  
duly executed his signature and seal in my presence.

Date and Place same as above.

Witness, IMANARI, Yasutaro

(Signed and Sealed)

Take a pity on the civilian Chinese masses  
who are not hostile.

It is indeed a beautiful trait of the national character of the Japanese race from ancient time not to bully the innocent and to take a pity upon the weak, especially in the intended holy war, the Chinese masses should not be regarded as our enemy. Our chief aim and purpose is to overthrow the Chinese National Government which is highly anti-Japanese in collusion with the communistic domination and to save the innocent Chinese population from the perils. We must do all what we can so that they may thoroughly be influenced by the benevolence of the Imperial way. We should never torment them without any reason, especially those who once give up their arms and surrender and are made prisoners should be treated as well as above. It must absolutely be made a point that women may not be outraged, that private property may not be plundered and that no people's houses may be set fire to without any unavoidable reason. Such acts not only cause ridicule of the other Powers as barbarous conducts, but also everlasting grievances of the Chinese masses. In these cases, even if the war should be won, the very purpose of the war itself would be frustrated. Though the saying

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"In the fields, plunder and rape are free" or "Armed force is an evil itself" may be admitted in foreign armies, such things can never be admitted in the Japanese army which is sacred to the Imperial way and God. Should such a person be found, he is entirely disloyal to the country and is a traitor to the country sacred to God and must be rejected. However, in China, the activity of the plain clothes soldiers is rampant. Do not fail in exercising your utmost care. In this connection, remember well the gist of Wada song of Emperor Meiji.

"Fell down the enemy hostile to the Country by all means, but bear it in mind at all times that man should be loved at heart." Without deserving merit, do not express any superior feeling over others. The Chinese have their own pride as Chinese race. They are the people who place importance in saving "face". Take this into consideration. We must respect their character and show magnanimity of mind in loving the Chinese. As far as we take such an attitude as a great nation and lead them with kindness, they will naturally respect us from the bottom of their heart and follow us.

Be always manly towards people of the third party nations at the front and pay the utmost respect towards their honours and property.

It is one of our cardinal morals of long tradition to treat all human beings on the equal footing and not to take any impartiality. It is entirely against the spirit of the moral code of Samurai to bully the weak and to court the favour of the strong. We should not necessarily be cowardly merely because of white men nor should we be arrogant merely because of blacks. Be always manly towards foreigners and treat them with benevolence and show the beautiful Japanese spirit.

Due to the Incident, the people of the third party nations may have surely been much troubled so that so far as they do not take hostile action, treat them with all sympathy and kindness and so far as they do not obstruct our movement, they must be protected and must not be troubled in the least. You should not give any damage to their lives and property without any forcible reason nor should you infringe their right and interests, especially you should all the care not to disgrace their national flags. Such conducts are barbarous and they not only injure the honour of our Imperial army, but also complicate international relations and the execution of our national policy is greatly to be obstructed. These conducts are indeed disloyal to our country.

### Crime of Pillage.

A crime of pillage is most liable to be committed in the battle ground. By pillage it means that when inhabitants become powerless before the prestige and power of our army or when they leave their abodes vacated as refugees, the property of these refugees is robbed in order to satisfy the private ends or the clothing or other personal belongings of the war dead or wounded are stripped off. Of course, on the similar occasion in the home country, these acts are surely punished as crime of burglary or theft, but in consideration of existence at the front, a crime of pillage under the military criminal law is to be meted out and from one year's to fifteen years' imprisonment with hard labour is to be condemned. Besides, at the time of pillage, if woman is outraged or man is injured, seven years' imprisonment with hard labour or under shall be sentenced. In extreme cases, death punishment is to be sentenced. Needless to say, when by the command of any superior officer, articles needed by the army may be requisitioned from inhabitants and it is permissible, but even in that, only those who are entitled to such requisition by the order are to requisition the needed articles upon due payment of compensation therefore, with the willing consent of the suffered inhabitants. Besides, there are some occasions when all inhabitants vacate the spot and no

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compensation cannot be defrayed to proper parties,  
but in no case whatever, for any private purpose, nothing  
can be robbed nor be stolen. In spirit, the former  
is far different from the latter, so that you must pay  
your extra attention not to rob inhabitants of nor  
steal anything under the pretext of requisition or at  
such a time for private ends.

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從  
軍  
兵  
士  
ノ  
心  
得  
拔  
萃

第一號（一般ノ心得）  
第二號（軍紀風紀ニ就テ）

昭和十四年十二月  
大本營陸軍部

表

## 一、戦地ニ於ケル敵意ナキ支那民衆ヲ愛憐セヨ

無辜ノ民ヲ苦メズ弱者ヲ憐ムノハ我が大和民族古來ノ美風デアル、況  
 シヤ今次ノ聖戦ハ支那民衆ヲ敵トシテ居ルノデハナイ、抗日容共ノ國  
 民政府ヲ建設シテ無辜ノ支那民衆ヲ救恤スルノガ目的デアル、彼等ヲ  
 シテ皇恩ニ浴シ得ル様ニシテヤラネバナラヌ、第一ニモ理由ナク彼等  
 ヲ苦メテゲル様ナコトガアツテハイケナイ、武器ヲ捨てテ投降シタ様  
 戸ニ對シテモ同様デアル、特に婦女ヲ姦シ私財ヲ掠メ或ハ民衆ヲ誑モ  
 ナシニ焚クガ如キコトハ絶対ニ避ケネバナラヌ、斯クノ如キ行爲ハ實  
 ニ野蠻民族トシテ列強ノ嗤ヲ買フバカリデハナク彼等支那民衆ヨリハ  
 未だ未だ進モ恨ヲ受ケ、假令戦國ニハ勝ツテモ聖戦ノ目的ハ達シテ又  
 コトトナル、「掠奪強姦手次第」ナドト云フ言葉ハ「兵ハ兇器ナリ」  
 ト稱スル外國ノ軍デハイザ知ラズ、神國デアリ神武デアル皇國ノ軍テ  
 ハ絕對ニアリ又コトデアル、萬一ニモ斯クノ如キ行爲ヲナスモノガ  
 マツタナラバ之レ不忠ノ臣デアル、國賊トシテ排撃セナバナラヌ、但  
 シ支那ノ戦場ニハ便衣兵ノ活動ガ旺ンデアルカラ油断ハ禁物デアル

明治天皇御製

國のためあだなす仇はくだくとも

いつくしむべき事を忘れそ

又謂モナク無國ニ誤レル優越感ヲ振リ廻シテハイケナイ彼等ト雖モ民  
族トシテノ矜持ガアラウ否彼等ハ特ニ面子ヲ重ンズル國民デアルカラ  
ヤタラニ威張り散ラシタノデハ彼等ヲ緩服セシムルコトハ出来ナイ、  
宜シク彼等ノ人格ヲ尊重シ之レヲ愛護スルノ大國民的大度量ヲ以テ彼  
等ニ接シ自然ニ我々ニ兄事シ師事シ遂ニ求メズシテ心カラ服スル様親  
切ニ導クコトガ必要デアル。

二、戦地ニ於ケル第三國人ニ對シテ正々堂々タルト共ニ其ノ  
名誉財産等ヲ尊重セヨ

一視同仁ハ我が國傳統ノ道德デアル、弱キヲ虐ゲ強キニアルガ如キハ  
武士ノ恥デアル、白哲人種ダカラト云ツテ卑屈ニナル必要モナケレバ  
黒色人種ダカラト云ツテ侮蔑スル能モナイ、一視同仁、正々堂々大膽

民トシテ魔シキ日本精神ノ眞髓ヲ示スベキデアアル

彼等第三國人ハ事變ノ爲メ隣分迷惑ヲ蒙ツテ居ルコトデアラウカラ彼等ガ敵對行爲ヲセズ限り同情ト親切トヲ以テ之ヲ遏シ、作壁上妨ゲナキ限りナルベク彼等ヲ保護シ且迷惑ヲ掛ケス様心掛クベキデアアル、謂モナク其ノ生命財產ヲ傷ケ、其ノ權益ヲ犯シ、或ハ其ノ國旗ヲ侮辱スル等ノコトガアツテハナラヌ、斯クノ如キハ野蠻行爲トシテ眞實ノ名譽ヲ毀クルノミナラズ、徒ラニ國際關係ヲ紛糾セシメ國際秩序ヲ妨害スルモノデアツテ誠ニ不忠ナルモノト云ハネバナラヌ

### 三、掠奪ノ罪

掠奪ハ戰場ニ於テ最モ陥リ易イ犯罪デアアル

掠奪トハ戦地ノ住民ガ我が軍ノ威力ニ怖レテ無抵抗デアルカ或ハ避難シテ居ルノニ乗ジ其ノ住民ノ財産ヲ私慾ヲ充ス爲ニ奪ヒ取り又ハ戰場ニ於テ戦死、傷病者ノ衣類其ノ他ノ財物ヲ褫奪スルコトデアアル内地ナラバ強盜ヤ窃盜ヲ罰セラレルノデアアルガ戦地ニ於テハ特に陸軍刑法ノ掠奪罪トシテ一年以上十五年以下ノ懲役ヲ科セラレルノデアアル

尙被奪ノ機會ニ婦女ヲ強姦シタリ又ハ人ヲ殺傷スレバ七年以上ノ懲役  
トナリ重キハ死刑ニ處セラレルノデアル、勿論上官ノ命令ニ依リ軍隊  
ノ必要トスル品物ヲ住民ヨリ徵發スルコトハ許サレテアルコトデアル  
ガ元來總督トハ徵發ノ權限ヲ附與サレテ居ル者ガ宜ニ必要ナルモノヲ  
代價ヲ拂ツテ住民カラ提供サセルノカ本旨デアツテ住民ガ悉ク難難シ  
テ居ル爲ニ代價ヲ拂ハヌ場合モアルガ私慾ヲ目的トシテ強姦シタリ物  
取シタリスルモノトハ其ノ精神ニ於テ全然異ルモノデアル、形ガ似テ  
居ルカラト云ツテ彼等ニ名ヲ藉リ又ハ徵發ノ序ニ私慾ヲ充スガ爲ニ住  
民ノ金品ヲ取スルガ如キ所謂掠奪ハ強ク戒メネバナラヌ

文書成立ニ関スル證明書

自分ハ復員廳第一復員局文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添附セル日本語ニ依リ印刷セラレ八十頁ヨリ成ル從軍兵士ノ心得ト題スル印刷物ハ大本營陸軍部ノ編輯發行ニ係ル文書ノ一ナルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年三月二十日 於東京

第一復員局文書課長 美山 聖 實

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ直前ニ於テ爲サレタモノナルコトヲ證明ス

同日 於 同 所

立會人 今 成 泰 太 郎